

Office of Economic Development 200 Airport Boulevard Lumberton, NC 28358

> Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, Southwest Washington, DC 20554

August 3, 2011

Re: AT&T's proposal to merge with T-Mobile, under review in the 11-65 docket

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

The keystone of our efforts at the Robeson County Economic Development Commission is our Business Retention & Expansion Program. We are deeply committed to sustaining and growing the business community in Robeson County. Because we see the merger proposed by T-Mobile and AT&T as a source of businesses technology resources, we urge you to approve the transaction.

Robeson County already has much to offer in order to attract businesses. Our labor force is more than 200,000 people strong, promising that demands for skilled, plentiful workers can be satisfied here in Robeson County. Any necessary training can be pursued through Robeson Community College in nearby Lumberton, the county seat. We also offer solid communication. That includes WNCP-TV, emanating from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, teleconferencing and programming at Robeson Community College, North Carolina Information Highway in six high schools, and telemedicine at Southeastern Regional Medical Center.

But the caliber of network we could access with the combined AT&T-T-Mobile would take our competitive edge to a whole new level. Its 4G LTE technology would provide stronger coverage, faster speeds, and cutting-edge data and voice capabilities. The communications it powers would surely be alluring for businesses considering Robeson County as their potential home. It would provide them the assurance of top-quality wireless service for any device they choose – be it tablets, smart phones or laptops – in fulfilling the day-to-day needs of their business.

The post-merger AT&T-T-Mobile network could be a valid selling point for Robeson County's business community. We hope you'll give the transaction your support.

Sincerely,

Director, Robeson County Economic Development Commission

CC:

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell